

## Message Text

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44

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SNM-02 AID-20 RSR-01 RSC-01 /039 W  
----- 099275

P R 201113 Z MAR 73  
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
TO BNDD HQS WASHDC PRIORITY  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1597  
THE WHITE HOUSE WASHDC  
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE  
AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 4418

E. O. 11652: GDS - 1979  
TAGS: SNAR ( TH, LA)  
SUBJECT: TASK FORCE REPORTS, WEEK ENDING MARCH 14, 1973

HQS PASS BELK/ IA, DURKING/ ENCC FROM DICK

WHITE HOUSE PASS L. GLADDEN FROM DICK/ BNDD

1. TAS FORCE 23 ( SNO)
  - A) PERSONNEL: NO CHANGE AT THIS TIME.
  - B) OFFICE SPACE: NO CHANGE AT THIS TIME.
  - C) EQUIPMENT: SNO HAS BEEN ISSUED 9 FIRST AID KITS AND ONE WALKIE TALKIE.
  - D) OPERATIONS: ON MARCH 9 AND 10 GENERAL SHUKIAT AND THE OFFICER IN CHARGE AT MAE SAI ACCOMPANIED BY ACTING SAIC PARKER VISITED THE SCENE OF INVESTIGATION WB-73-0005. THE GENERAL WAS INTERESTED IN THE ROUTE COVERED BY THE SUSPECTS IN ORDER TO SET UP BETTER COVERAGE OF THE MAE SAI AREA.

MAE SAI AND CHIANG RAI GARRISONS ARE PRESENTLY WORKING ON AN INVESTIGATION INVOLVING TWO MONKS, WHOM THEY BELIEVE ARE HEROIN SMUGGLERS. ONE MONK LIVES IN BURMA AND SUPPOSEDLY MEETS WITH THE MONKS FROM MAE SAI, WHO TRANSPORT THE HEROIN TO BANGKOK. SNO BELIEVES THIS INVESTIGATION IS GOING TO INVOLVE MANY HOURS OF SURVEILLANCE. THE TWO GARRISONS ARE NOW ENGAGED IN DEPLOYING MANPOWER TO COVER THE AREA.

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SNO PERSONNEL ARE TRYING TO OBTAIN AN INFORMANT FROM  
A BODY SHOP, SUSPECTED TO MAKING SECRET COMPARTMENTS IN TRUCKS  
AT MAE SAI.

VEHICLE CHECKS CONTINUE AT ABOUT 150 PER WEEK.

E) SPECIAL COMMENT: GENERAL SHUKIAT ON MARCH 9 AND 10  
PAID REWARDS TO SNO PERSONNEL AT CHIANG RAI AND MAE SAI FOR  
PAST INVESTIGATIONS. ALL OTHER INVOLVED POLICE AGENCIES  
WERE ON HAND AT THE TIME AND RECEIVED THEIR REWARDS FOR THEIR  
ASSISTANCE.

2. TASK FORCE 27 ( GSI)

- A) PERSONNEL: NO CHANGE AT THIS TIME.
- B) OFFICE SPACE: NO CHANGE AT THIS TIME.
- C) EQUIPMENT: NO CHANGE AT THIS TIME.
- D) OPERATIONS:

( A) LUANG PRABANG: GSI OFFICERS SEARCHED TWO  
MILITARY AIRCRAFTS AND A ROYAL AIR LAOS AIRCRAFT DURING THIS  
PERIOD WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS. S/ A VOPAT AND CAPTAIN ONE  
( GSI- VIENTIANE) VISITED THE LUANG PRABANG OFFICE DURING THE  
PERIOD OF MARCH 11, 1973 THROUGH AND INCLUDING MARCH 15, 1973  
FOR INSPECTION OF THAT OFFICE.

( B) VIENTIANE: ON MARCH 12, 1973, GSI OFFICERS SEIZED 20  
KILOGRAMS OPIUM AND ARRESTED POLICE CAPTAIN SIPHANH, CHIEF  
OF POLICE OF MUONG MET ( NEAR SAYABOURY) AND TWO OTHERS AT  
THE VICINITY OF NONG DUANG, VIENTIANE. THIS INVESTIGATION  
WAS INITIATED THROUGH SPORADIC SURVEILLANCE OF THAT AREA  
BY ASSIGNED GSI OFFICERS. IT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT  
THE OFFICER WHO OBSERVED WHAT HE THOUGHT WAS AN OPIUM  
DELIVERY, ALONE AND UNARMED, ACCOSTED THE POLICE CAPTAIN  
AFTER WHICH THE CAPTAIN DREW A REVOLVER AND ESCAPED IN A  
TAXI WITH THE CONTRABAND. THE GSI OFFICER SUBSEQUENTLY  
CALLED HIS HEADQUARTERS FOR ASSISTANCE AFTER WHICH ALL  
SUSPECTS WERE LOCATED AND ARRESTED AND CONTRABAND  
SEIZED WITHIN 5 HOURS. WC-73-0008, THAO SIPHANH PHIAVONG,  
ET AL, DA3- E3.

( C) GSI AND LAO NATIONAL POLICE OFFICERS ARE  
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CURRENTLY CONDUCTING A JOINT NARCOTIC INVESTIGATION BY

UTILIZATION OF A SOURCE WHO IS ATTEMPTING TO PURCHASE A  
LARGE QUANTITY OF HEROIN FROM A LOCAL TRAFFICKER.

(D) S/ A FULLETT OF BANGKOK REGIONAL OFFICE VISITED  
THE VIENTIANE DISTRICT OFFICE DURING THE PERIOD OF MARCH 10,  
1973 THROUGH MARCH 16, 1973. HE ASSISTED THE VDO AND GSI  
WITH INVESTIGATIONS REPORED ABOVE.

(E) S/ A' S O' GRADY AND SALADINO VISITED THE VDO  
DURING THE PERIOD OF MARCH 13, 1973 THROUGH MARCH 16, 1973  
WHERE THEY ASSITED THE VDO AND GSI IN OPERATION OF RADIO  
COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT.

(F) ON MARCH 10, 1973, SAIC MORELLI ACCOMPANIED  
MR. NORMAN ROLPH, COMMISSIONER OF NARCOTICS AT HONG KONG,  
MR. ROBIN FEARN OF BRITISH EMBASSY, VIENTIANE, AND ROBERT  
DAKAN OF USAID/ PRO TO BAN HOUEI SAI AND LUANG PRABANG FOR  
ORIENTATION BY ELEMENTS OF THE NARCOTIC CONTROL PROGRAM IN  
THE ABOVE AREAS. MR. ROLPH REMAINED IN THE VIENTIANE AREA  
UNTIL MARCH 12, 1973 DURING WHICH TIME HE CONFERRED  
WITH AMBASSADOR GODLEY, GENERAL KHAMHOU, NARCOTIC  
ATTACHE, AND MEMBERS OF USAID INVOLVED IN THE  
NARCOTIC CONTROL PROGRAM FOR LAOS.  
UNGER

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

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**To:** BNDD HQS WASHDC  
CHIANG MAI  
EA  
SECSTATE WASHDC  
VIENTIANE  
WASHDC

**Type:** TE

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